

The position of the Roman Catholic Church to Islamic extremism

Abstract

The present thesis deals with the attitude of the Pope, those spiritual state performing the function in individual institutions of the Holy See, theologians and a selected group of people from the Czech general public Roman Catholic Church to religious extremism, focusing on the ultimate form of extremism – terrorism – of individuals or groups espousing to Islam. Since religious extremism often associated with fundamentalism, radicalism and fanaticism, is the first chapter to analyze the basic characteristics of these concepts, with the emphasis on analyzing the meaning and essence of their grasp. A comparison of them found what they have in common and what they are different. Following the above leads to analysis of how extremism reflect the religious and intellectual personalities of islam, with attached description and comparison of the attitudes of these figures, and militant-minded muslims to the jihad by the sword „*al-džihád bi's-sajf*“. In connection with this armed form of jihad work briefly compares the concept of martyrdom in islam and the roman catholic church and the result in the summary analyses. It is also a brief look into the history of religious extremism, as an integral part of the development of Christianity and Islam.

On the basis of the information thus obtained are successively analyzed and compared attitudes towards the topic from the roman catholic church (the Holy see and of selected theologians), and since the end of the 20. century to the present. A separate chapter then describes the position of some theologians and persons of the spiritual condition of operating in the Czech republic. The last chapter deals with the analysis of the questionnaires focused on the attitude of the individual of the laity from the ranks of the Czech roman catholic church to the religious – islamic – extremism. The results obtained are shown in the form of graphs and incorporated as one of the annexes to this work. The work is concluded a comprehensive analysis of the above attitudes, including the author's reflection.